ALBERTA PROFILES:

ABORIGINALS IN THE LABOUR FORCE

2007

Alberta Employment and Immigration

Highlights

For the purpose of this profile, the population is defined as the working age population (15+ years) of Alberta's Aboriginal people living off-reserve.

1. Working Age Population of Alberta's Aboriginal People (Off-Reserve)

- Approximately 58% of the working age population (WAP) of Alberta's Aboriginal people living off-reserve was Métis.
- Over 66% of the WAP of Alberta's Aboriginal people living off-reserve was between the ages of 25 and 64 years.
- Edmonton and Calgary economic regions had the highest concentration of Alberta's Aboriginal people living off-reserve.

2. Educational Levels of Alberta's Aboriginal People (Off-Reserve)

- In 2007, 38.3% of the population of Alberta's Aboriginal people living off-reserve had completed a post-secondary certificate or diploma, or a university degree.
- The percentage of Aboriginal people living off-reserve in Alberta with less than a high school diploma was 28.6%.

3. Employment of Alberta's Aboriginal People (Off-Reserve) by Industry

- The services-producing sector employed 69.0% of Aboriginal people living off-reserve.
- Almost half of the working population of Aboriginal people living off-reserve was employed in the following industries: Retail or Wholesale Trade, 16.7%; Construction, 12.4%; Health Care and Social Assistance, 10.5%; and Accommodation and Food Services, 10.0%.

4. Employment of Alberta's Aboriginal People (Off-Reserve) by Occupation

- Business, finance, and administration; Sales and services; and Trades, transportation, and equipment operator occupations employed 70.3% of Alberta's Aboriginal people living off-reserve.

5. Participation Rates of Alberta's Aboriginal People (Off-Reserve)

- Participation rates of Aboriginal people living off-reserve were lower than those of Alberta's WAP.

Highlights

6. Employment Rates of Alberta's Aboriginal People (Off-Reserve)

- Employment rates for Aboriginal people living off-reserve were lower than the rates for Alberta's WAP.
- Among the off-reserve Aboriginal groups, the Métis had the highest employment rate.

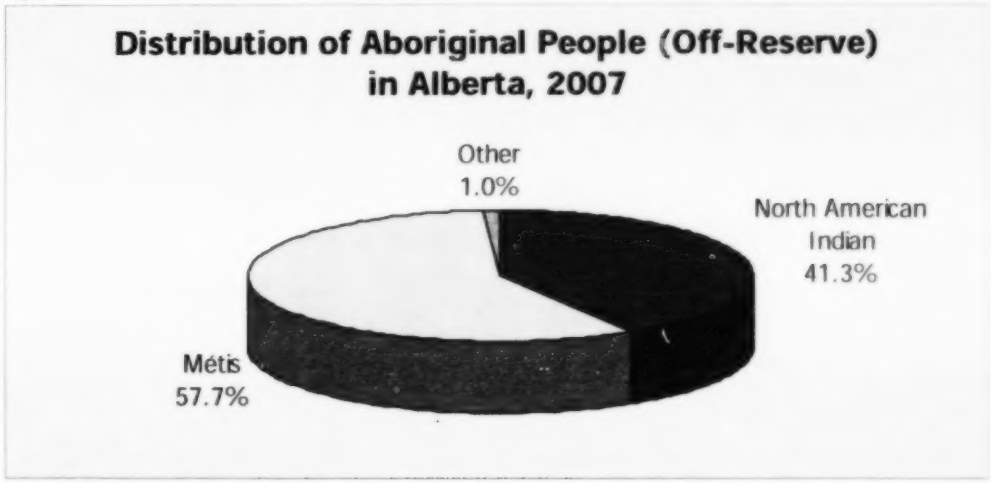
7. Unemployment Rates of Alberta's Aboriginal People (Off-Reserve)

- The unemployment rate for Aboriginal people living off-reserve was more than double the rate for Alberta's WAP.
- The unemployment rate for North American Indians in Alberta was a percentage point higher than the rate for the Métis.

1. Labour Force Statistics of Alberta's Aboriginal People (Off-Reserve)

Figure 1 displays the composition of the working age population (15+ years) of Alberta's Aboriginal people living off-reserve. North American Indians made up 41.3% of the population, Métis represented 57.7% of the population and 1.0% were Other (Inuit or multiple responses).

Figure 1



Source: Statistics Canada Labour Force Historical Survey, 2007
Note: Data represents those aged 15+ years.

Figure 2 shows that in 2007, the working age population (15+ years) of Aboriginal people living off-reserve in Alberta was 98,600. The proportions of Aboriginal people between the ages of 15 and 24, and 25 and 64 were 28.0% and 66.6%, respectively. The corresponding proportions for all Albertans were 18.4% and 69.3%, respectively.

Figure 2

Aboriginal People (Off-Reserve) by Age Group in Alberta, 2007

	All Aboriginal People		North American Indian		Métis	
	Population	% of total	Population	% of total	Population	% of total
Working Age Population (15+ years)	98,600	100.0%	40,700	100.0%	56,900	100.0%
15-24 Years	27,600	28.0%	12,900	31.7%	14,500	25.5%
25-64 Years	65,700	66.6%	25,800	63.4%	39,100	68.7%

Source: Statistics Canada Labour Force Historical Survey, 2007

Figure 3 shows Alberta's Aboriginal people living off-reserve by economic region at the end of 2007. An economic region is defined by Statistics Canada as a geographical unit composed of several census divisions within a province. The highest concentrations of Aboriginal people living off-reserve in Alberta were in the following economic regions: Edmonton, 36.8%; Calgary, 21.8%; Athabasca-Grande Prairie, 15.4%; and Wood Buffalo-Cold Lake, 10.5%.

Figure 3

Aboriginal People (Off-Reserve) by Economic Region in Alberta, 2007

	All Aboriginal People		North American Indian		Metis	
Economic Region	**Population[1]**	**% of total**	**Population[1]**	**% of total**	**Population[1]**	**% of total**
Total	**98,600**	**100.0%**	**40,700**	**100.0%**	**56,900**	**100.0%**
Lethbridge-Medicine Hat	4,500	4.6%	2,100	5.2%	2,400	4.2%
Camrose-Drumheller	3,900	4.0%	1,500	3.7%	2,400	4.2%
Calgary	21,500	21.8%	12,300	30.2%	9,200	16.2%
Banff-Jasper-RMH	3,300	3.3%	1,200	2.9%	2,100	3.7%
Red Deer	3,600	3.7%	1,500	3.7%	2,000	3.5%
Edmonton	36,300	36.8%	14,700	36.1%	20,600	36.2%
Athabasca-Grande Paririe	15,200	15.4%	4,300	10.6%	10,800	19.0%
Wood Buffalo-Cold Lake	10,400	10.5%	3,100	7.6%	7,300	12.8%

Source: Statistics Canada Labour Force Historical Survey, 2007

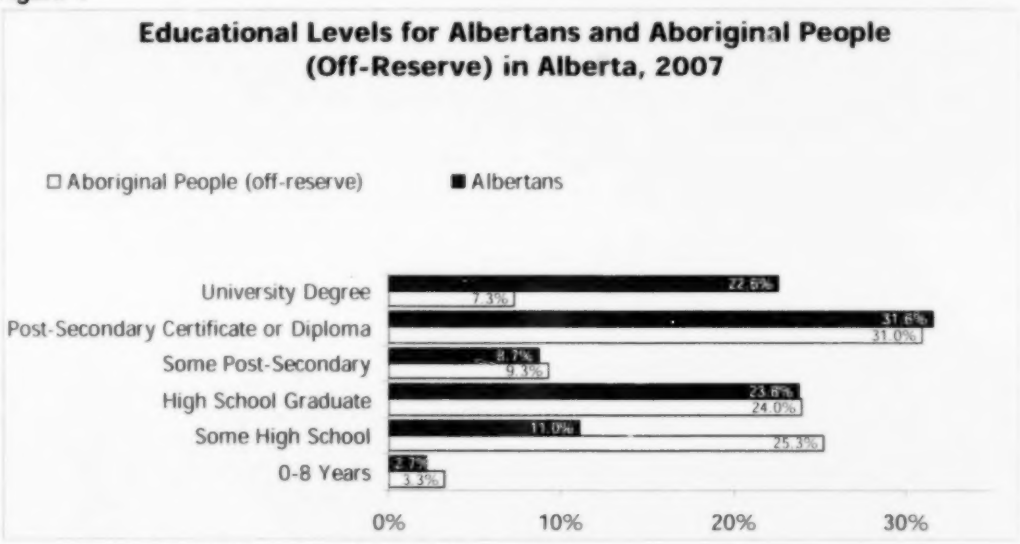
[1]Aboriginal working age population (15+ Years)

2. Educational Levels of Alberta's Aboriginal People (Off-Reserve)

In 2007, 38.3% of Alberta's Aboriginal people living off-reserve had completed post-secondary education, with 31.0% having attained a post-secondary certificate or diploma and 7.3% having attained a university degree.

Figure 4 shows the educational levels of the working age population of all Albertans and Alberta's Aboriginal people living off-reserve at the end of 2007. Approximately 29% of Alberta's Aboriginal people living off-reserve had less than a high school diploma. The proportion of Alberta's working age population who had less than a high school diploma was 13.2%.

Figure 4



Source: Statistics Canada Labour Force Historical Survey, 2007

3. Employment of Alberta's Aboriginal People (Off-Reserve) by Industry

Figure 5 shows that in 2007, 69.0% of Alberta's Aboriginal people living off-reserve were employed in the services-producing sector, while 30.8% were employed in the goods-producing sector.

Approximately 59% of Alberta's Aboriginal people living off-reserve were employed in the following five industries: Retail and Wholesale Trade, 16.7%; Construction, 12.4%; Health Care and Social Assistance, 10.5%; Accommodation and Food Services, 10.0%; and Forestry, Fishing, Mining and Oil and Gas Extraction, 9.6%.

Figure 5

Employment of Alberta's Aboriginal People (Off-Reserve) by Industry, 2007

	Employment	% of total
Total Employment	**65,900**	**100.0%**
Total: Goods-Producing Sector	**20,300**	**30.8%**
Construction	8,200	12.4%
Manufacturing	4,300	6.5%
Forestry, Fishing,Mining and Oil and Gas Extraction	6,300	9.6%
Agriculture	700	1.1%
Utilities	700	1.1%
Total: Services-Producing Sector	**45,500**	**69.0%**
Retail and Wholesale Trade	11,000	16.7%
Transportation and Warehousing	4,000	6.1%
Finance, Insurance, Real Estate and Leasing	2,300	3.5%
Professional, Scientific and Technical Services	1,500	2.3%
Management of Companies and Enterprises	3,000	4.6%
Educational Services	2,200	3.3%
Health Care and Social Assistance	6,900	10.5%
Information, Culture and Recreation	1,900	2.9%
Accommodation and Food Services	6,600	10.0%
Other Services	3,700	5.6%
Public Administration	2,400	3.6%

Source: Statistics Canada Labour Force Historical Survey, 2007
Note: N/A signifies a suppressed figure due to insufficient response.

4. Employment of Alberta's Aboriginal People (Off-Reserve) by Occupation

Aboriginal people living off-reserve in Alberta were primarily employed in three occupations: Sales and services occupations, 29.7%; Trades, transportation, equipment operators and related occupations, 24.4%; and Business, finance and administration occupations, 16.2%. Together, these three occupational groups accounted for 70.3% of the employment of Aboriginal people living off-reserve.

Figure 6

Employment by Occupation for Albertans and Aboriginal People (Off-Reserve) in Alberta, 2007

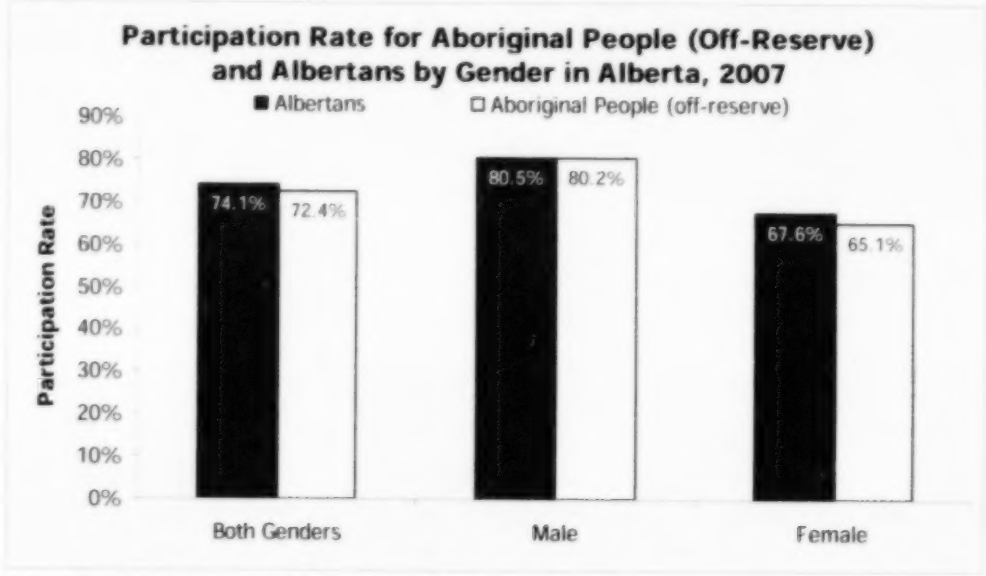
	Albertans (15+ years)		Aboriginals (15+ years)	
	Employment	% of total	Employment	% of total
Total Employment	**1,959,900**	**100.0%**	**65,900**	**100.0%**
Management	158,200	8.1%	2,800	4.2%
Business, finance and administration	350,200	17.9%	10,700	16.2%
Natural and applied sciences and related	155,200	7.9%	2,800	4.2%
Health	105,300	5.4%	2,400	3.6%
Social sciences, education, government and religion	145,000	7.4%	3,500	5.3%
Art, culture, recreation and sport	51,100	2.6%	600	0.9%
Sales and services	442,000	22.6%	19,600	29.7%
Trades, transportation and equipment operators	366,400	18.7%	16,100	24.4%
Unique to primary industry	115,300	5.9%	4,100	6.2%
Unique to processing, manufacturing and utilities	71,100	3.6%	3,300	5.0%

Source: Statistics Canada Labour Force Historical Survey, 2007

5. Participation Rates of Alberta's Aboriginal People (Off-Reserve)

Figure 7 displays the participation rates for Alberta's working age population and Alberta's Aboriginal people living off-reserve by gender. Participation rates for Aboriginal people living off-reserve were lower than those for Alberta's working age population. In 2007, 72.4% of Alberta's Aboriginal people living off-reserve participated in the labour force compared to 74.1% of Albertans. The participation rate for male Albertans was 80.5% compared to 80.2% for Aboriginal males living off-reserve. The participation rates for Alberta's females and Aboriginal females were 67.6% and 65.1%, respectively.

Figure 7



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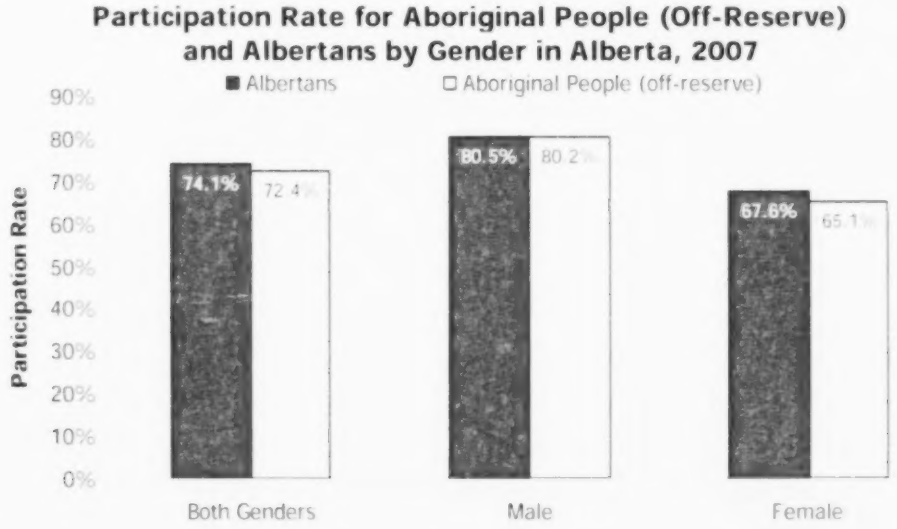

Source: Statistics Canada Labour Force Historical Survey, 2007

6. Employment Rates of Alberta's Aboriginal People (Off-Reserve)

Figure 8 compares the employment rates for off-reserve Aboriginal people and Alberta's working age population. In 2007, the employment rate for Aboriginal people living off-reserve was 66.8%. This was 4.7 percentage points lower than the employment rate for all Albertans.

Figure 8

Source: Statistics Canada Labour Force Historical Survey, 2007

Figure 9 shows the employment rates of Alberta's Aboriginal people living off-reserve by gender in 2007. The Métis had the highest employment rate among off-reserve Aboriginal people, at 67.4%. Aboriginal males had a higher employment rate than their female counterparts.

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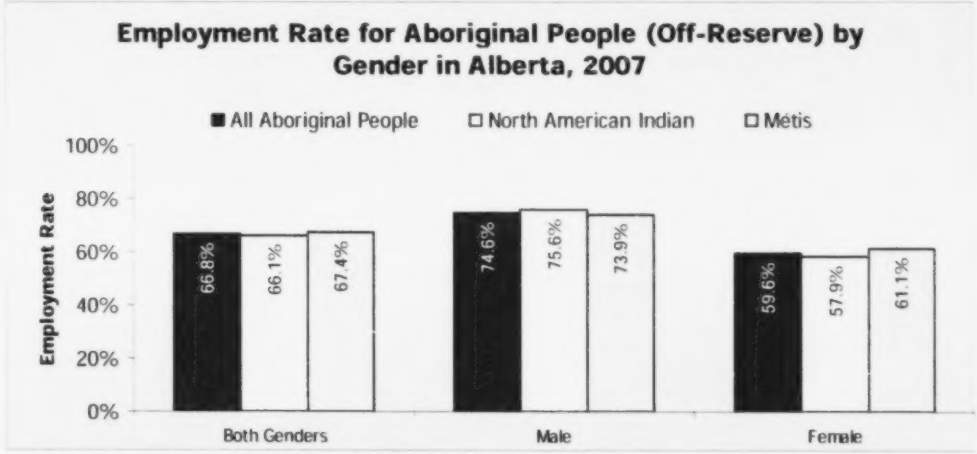


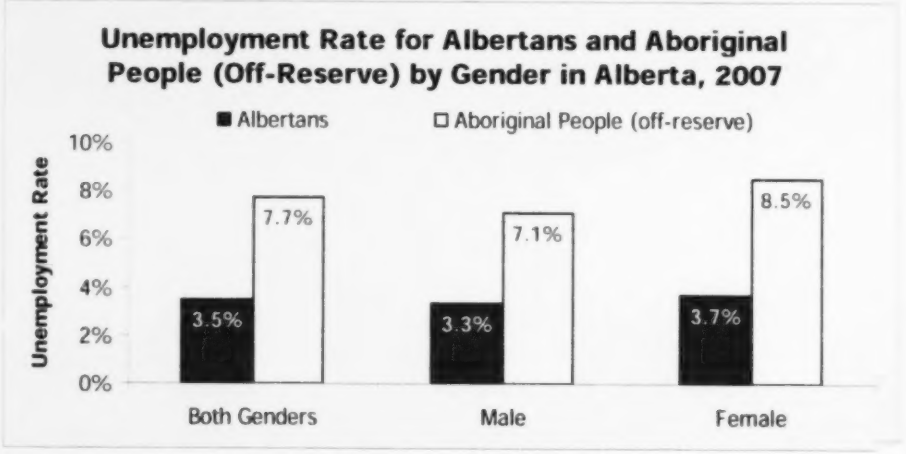
Statistics Canada Labour Force Historical Survey, 2007

7. Unemployment Rates of Alberta's Aboriginal People (Off-Reserve)

Figure 10 compares the unemployment rates for Alberta's off-reserve Aboriginal people and Alberta's working age population. The unemployment rate for Aboriginal people living off-reserve was 7.7%. This was 4.2 percentage points higher than the unemployment rate for Alberta's working age population.

Male Aboriginal Albertans had an unemployment rate of 7.1% while male Albertans had an unemployment rate of 3.3%. Female Aboriginal Albertans had an unemployment rate of 8.5% compared to female Albertans whose unemployment rate was 3.7%.

Figure 10



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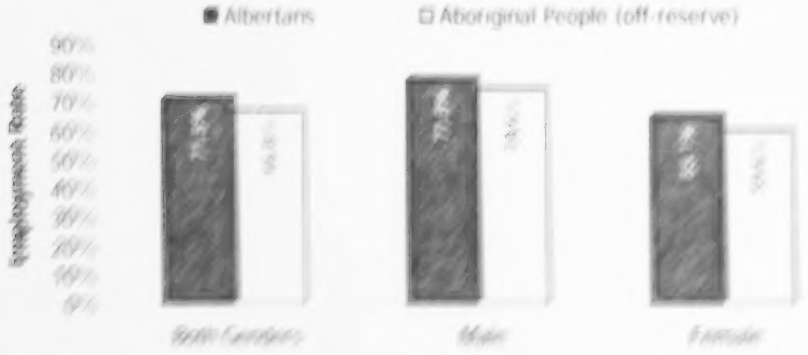
Employment Rate by Gender in Alberta, 2007



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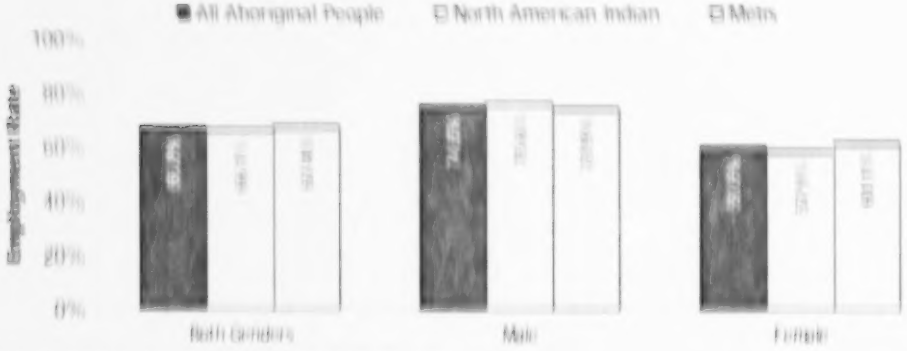

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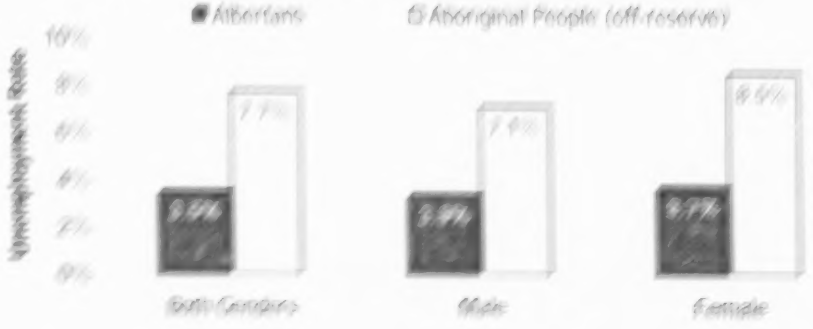
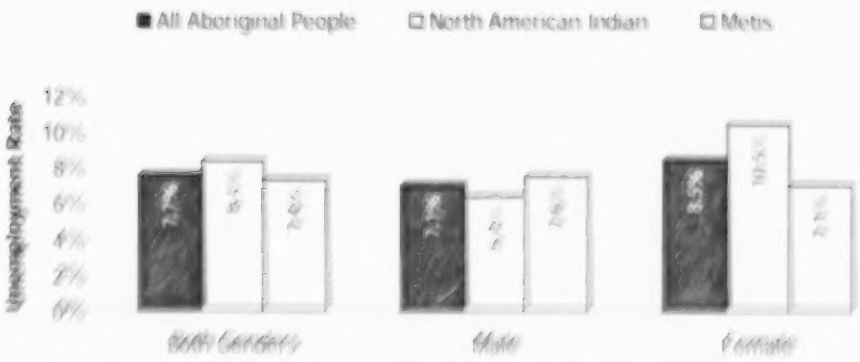


Source: Statistics Canada Labour Force Historical Survey, 2007

Figure 11 displays the differences in unemployment rates of Alberta's Aboriginal people living off-reserve in 2007. North American Indians had the highest unemployment rate at 8.4%. This was 1.0 percentage point higher than the unemployment rate of 7.4% for the Metis people.

Figure 11

Unemployment Rate for Aboriginal People (Off-Reserve) by Gender in Alberta, 2007



Source: Statistics Canada Labour Force Historical Survey, 2007

Additional information about Alberta Aboriginal Labour Force Statistics may be found at:

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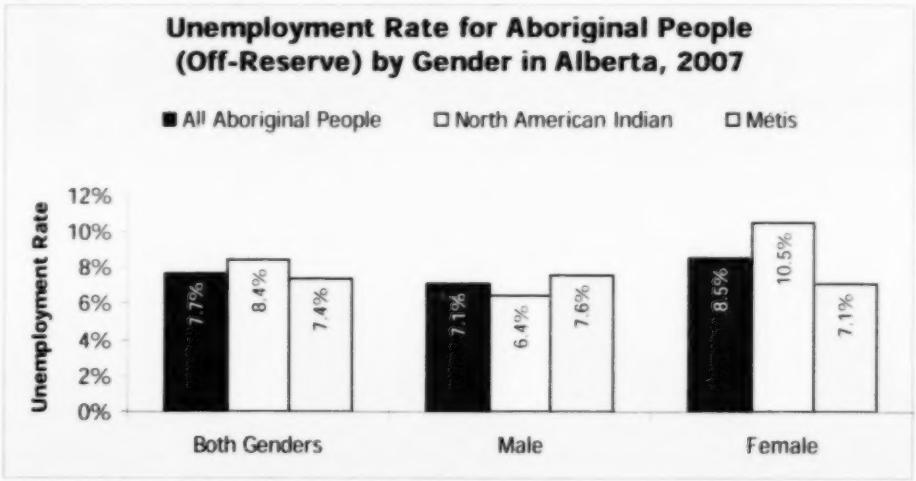

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Additional information about Alberta Aboriginal Labour Force Statistics may be found at:
http://www.employment.alberta.ca/cps/rde/xchg/hre/hs.xsl/67.html

Appendix

All definitions are from the Guide to the Labour Force Survey, Statistics Canada – Catalogue no. 71-543-GIE.

Aboriginal People: Aboriginal Identity refers to those persons who reported identifying with at least one Aboriginal group, i.e. North American Indian, Métis or Inuit (Eskimo), and/or who reported being a Treaty Indian or a Registered Indian, as defined by the *Indian Act of Canada*, and/or who reported being a member of an Indian Band or First Nation.[1]

Employment Rate: The number of persons employed expressed as a percentage of working age population (WAP).

Industry: The general nature of the business carried out by the employer for whom the respondent works (main job only).

Occupation: The kind of work persons 15+ years were doing during the reference week, as determined by the kind of work reported and the description of the most important duties of the job. If the individual did not have a job during the reference week, the data relates to the previous job, if that job was held in the past year.

Participation Rate: The total labour force expressed as a percentage of the WAP. This measure represents the proportion of the WAP that is either employed or actively seeking employment.

Unemployment Rate: The number of unemployed persons expressed as a percentage of the labour force.

Working Age Population: Those persons 15+ years except persons living on Indian reserves, inmates of institutions, and full-time members of the Canadian Armed Forces.

[1] 2001 Census Dictionary, Statistics Canada – Catalogue No. 92-378-XIE